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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 21 | Humidity 80% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 85,836 | Nifty 26,213 | Gold 77,020 | Silver 90,100 | Dollar 83.64 | Euro 92.93 | GBP 111.69

Grin & bear it

CITY PAGE 4

At Bannerghatta Bear Rescue Centre, visitors can experience first-hand challenges faced by sloth bears and elephants

Everywhere weed

CITY PAGE 6

Lantana's aggressive spread is choking out native grasses and plants that are vital for wildlife food sources

AI voice cloning tools allow scammers to gather voice samples from phone calls, social media or any recording available on public forums to make distress calls intended to swindle people

WARNING: THIS MAY SOUND SCARY

Expert suggests some precautionary measures to thwart this threat

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Imagine receiving a call from your child, sounding distressed, telling you they're in trouble and need help immediately. Later, a second call from the police confirms the worst: your child has been arrested, and to release them, you need to pay a fine. In your panic, you comply, only to find out later that neither the first nor the second call was real.

This is just an all-new chilling way fraudsters have found to deceive unsuspecting victims. Voice phishing or vishing makes use artificial intelligence (AI) to clone a person's voice and call their contacts to fool them into handing over money or sensitive information.

AI voice cloning allows scammers to gather voice samples from phone calls, social media, or any publicly available recordings, and AI to analyse and replicate the voice. With enough data, they can reproduce the voice so accurately that even close family members may be fooled.

Chief Cyber Security Advisor Dr Harsha Thennarasu recounts a recent case. "The scam involved a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

"The scam involved a voice so perfectly cloned that even our expert team struggled to tell the difference between the fake and the real voice. If we couldn't easily distinguish between them, how can the common person be expected to?

—Harsha Thennarasu, Chief Cyber Security Advisor

Slow to take to biogas

Report shows less than 30% of sanctioned biogas plants operational in Karnataka

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A report from the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), a Delhi-based NGO, has highlighted that the adoption of compressed biogas (CBG) projects in Karnataka has been slow. Without a dedicated bioenergy policy, Karnataka is lagging in generating this renewable energy.

The state currently has less than 30% of the sanctioned biogas plants functional.

Out of 25 registered plants, seven are functional, 11 are yet to start construction, 6 are in the construction process and one has completed construction.

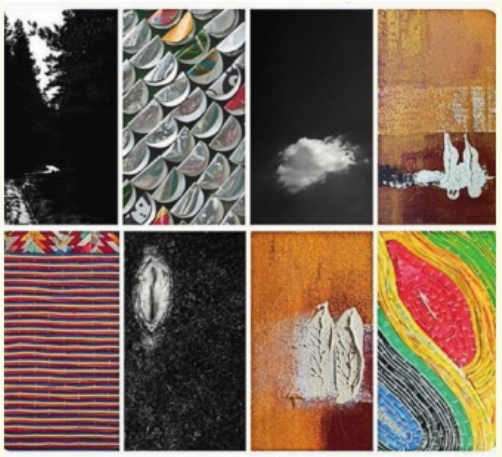
The report states that the country's renewable energy policy framework at the state level is fragmented. Some states have a comprehensive renewable energy policy, others have distinct policies for solar, hydro, and bioenergy, and a few have no policies at all.

Karnataka has state-level Renewable Energy Policy 2022 and Solar Policy 2014. Under the policy, incentives are available for co-generation and waste-to-energy plants that aim to convert biogas into electricity.

"Karnataka, along with other

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 »

3 THINGS TO DO



01 Art show

Join in and explore a splendid art show and captivating artworks from an ongoing exhibition "Pause" by Marissa D, Veda Ajwani, and Priti Ganatra at Dwija Art Gallery.
Where: Dwija Art Gallery, Residency Road
When: Until September 28, 12 pm to 6 pm

02 Tales of emperors

Join in for the book discussion on "The Book of Emperors" by Ashwitha Jayakumar and Nikhil Gulati. It is an illustrated book of history that animates the lives and times of the Mughal Emperors. Ashwitha and Nikhil will be in conversation with Vikramajit Ram, a novelist and non-fiction writer based in Bengaluru.
Where: Champaca Bookstore
When: September 29, 12 pm to 1 pm

03 Courtroom drama

Step into the intense world of "Aparadhi Naanalla" (I am not the victim), a gripping courtroom drama that will keep you on the edge of your seat. The story revolves around a corporate employee who stands accused of a shocking murder. As the trial unfolds, questions arise: Is he truly guilty, or is there a hidden truth waiting to be revealed? Who is the real culprit behind the crime? And who was the unfortunate victim? With twists and turns at every corner, the play challenges perceptions and explores the depths of human nature.
Where: Dr C Ashwath Kala Bhavana, Basavanagudi; When: September 28, 7 pm

Four-year honours degree seems to be hitting dead end

Bangalore University seeks feedback on future plans of 4-year honours programmes in its varsities; HC directs colleges to appoint only those lecturers who fulfill UGC norms

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There appears to be minimal interest among colleges to continue the 4-year honours degree course under the National Education Policy (NEP). Bangalore University (BU) has now sought feedback from colleges within its jurisdiction regarding the continuation or discontinuation of the 4-year honours program. Out of 294 colleges, fewer than 10 have submitted their opinions. Moreover, the responses received were incomplete, leading BU to adopt a wait-and-see approach for the time being.

Amidst this, the state government is moving to replace the NEP with a State Education Policy (SEP). In the interim, the university is grappling with whether to offer the nursing degree to students enrolled in the academic years 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24. To address this issue, in August BU had instructed colleges to share their opinions on whether to continue or discontinue the 4-year honours course. However, even after the deadline has passed, only four or five colleges have expressed their views.

'BU is grappling with whether to offer the nursing degree to students enrolled in the AYs 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24'

Possibility of discontinuation

An official said, "In light of the lack of feedback from colleges, BU has made another appeal for prompt responses. If colleges do not submit their opinions in the upcoming period, the university's higher authorities have indicated a decision to discontinue the 4-year honours degree program."

Meanwhile, BU has instructed colleges that if they wish to continue the 4-year nursing program, they must provide relevant information. Additionally, any feedback, regardless of its nature, should be submitted. Students who completed a 3-year degree course in 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 should be granted the opportunity to continue to the 4th year of the honours degree and to the 5th year of the postgraduate program, should they wish.

Appoint only those individuals who meet UGC qualifications as lecturers: HC

Meanwhile, the High Court has instructed the state government to appoint only those individuals who meet the qualifications set by the University Grants Commission (UGC) as lecturers in degree colleges. As a result, the department, which had previously called for applications and scheduled counselling for guest lecturers, is now required to reopen the application process.

According to UGC regulations, individuals working as lecturers must hold a postgraduate degree along with either the National Eligibility Test (NET), the Karnataka State Eligibility Test (K-SET), the State Eligibility Test (SET), or a PhD. However, a recent notification issued by the education department that allowed candidates holding only a postgraduate degree to apply for the guest lecturer positions was challenged by several candidates in the High Court.

> **"In light of the lack of feedback from colleges, BU has made another appeal for prompt responses** – BU official

In the meantime, the college education department had announced that postgraduate degree holders could apply for guest lecturer positions and scheduled counselling for September 30. However, the High Court's ruling has put a halt to these proceedings.

Currently, there are approximately 10,600 guest lecturers working in government degree colleges across the state, with about 5,890 of them reportedly lacking the qualifications mandated by the UGC. Higher Education Minister Dr MC Sudhakar stated, "We will come to a decision on the issue of guest lecturers soon. Colleges have commenced their operations, and we are considering measures to ensure that students do not face any difficulties."

Out of 25 registered plants, 7 are functional

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

states such as Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra have integrated some aspects of biogas into their renewable energy policies, but they focus on producing electricity from biogas rather than biomethane," noted the report.

It also underlines that CBG projects could run on municipal solid waste given strict regulations and enforcement of the Solid Waste Management 2016 mandated by the states. However, there is a need to upgrade the waste collection infrastructure.

Regular analysis needed

Moreover, the urban local body should conduct regular analysis and surveys to get data for efficient estimation of waste availability fit to be used for CBG generation.

"The collection of municipal solid waste could also be done using the public-private partnership model. Even after segregation, there are some food components, like onion peels, lemons, etc., that need to be separated before feeding the organics in the digestor. This is important as these will disturb the biology of the reactor. To ensure this, advanced machinery needs to be in place to segregate these components using modern technology. This needs investment in research and development, as well as incentive support from the state governments," said the report.

Urban local body should conduct surveys to get data for estimation of waste

According to CSE researchers, a key obstacle to CBG development is the ineffective execution of policies. While several states have significant CBG potential, they still lack clear policies and incentives. Only four states - Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Bihar, and Gujarat - currently have bioenergy policies that support CBG.

India scenario

Out of the 677 CBG projects registered across the country, 408 have yet to begin construction, 172 are currently under construction, and 97 are operational. Approximately 60% of the registered projects have not commenced, likely due to factors such as lack of funding, slow regulatory approvals, difficulties in sourcing feedstock, or technological challenges.

The states with the highest number of projects in the pipeline are Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, and Haryana. Gujarat leads with the highest number of operational plants (17), followed by Uttar Pradesh (15) and Haryana (10).

Complainant opposes Prajwal's bail, tells HC video 'not morphed'

HC reserves verdict, shall pronounce orders on Prajwal's all anticipatory bail pleas together

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In a recent development, opposing the fresh anticipatory bail plea by suspended Janta Dal (S) leader Prajwal Revanna, who is charged in a rape and sexual assault case, the complainant woman on Thursday informed the Karnataka High Court that the FSL report (forensic lab report) on the video, in which he has allegedly been caught, confirms its authenticity and rules out any morphing.

During the hearing of Prajwal's fresh anticipatory bail plea, the woman's counsel urged the court to deny bail, stating that his speech was fully recorded and found to be similar to the voice samples taken for comparison. The court, presided over by Justice M Nagaprasanna, reserved its verdict and announced that it would pronounce the orders on all anticipatory bail pleas together.

The case, filed by the Special Investigation Team, includes various offences under the Indian Penal Code and the Information Technology Act, such as rape, sexual harassment, criminal intimidation, and violation of privacy. Last week, the HC had also reserved its verdict on Revanna's bail plea in the first case and two anticipatory bail pleas related to subsequent complaints of rape and sexual assault.

The court also noted the voice match in the video, while senior advocate Prabhuling K Navadgi, representing Prajwal, argued that the victim's continued stay at the location despite the alleged incident was an unusual circumstance. On the other hand, senior advocate Professor Ravivarma Kumar, appearing for the prosecution, emphasised the nature and gravity of the alleged offence, describing it as "serial rape" committed by Prajwal, who was in a position of control and dominance over the victim.

File photo of a protest rally seeking Prajwal's arrest

Kumar pointed out that no criminal complaint had been filed against the victim and argued that, coming from a politically powerful and financially rich family, Prajwal posed a flight risk. He further highlighted the FSL report, which confirmed the authenticity of the video and the similarity of Prajwal's voice to the samples taken. He stated that the report included a transcript of the video, detailing how he allegedly forced the victim into subjugation and that the victim's cries were recorded.

The HC noted that the complainant's narration of the incident was "too gory" and questioned Prajwal's decision to file a suit restraining the media.

HC declines hearing of PIL against Rahul Gandhi over 'mass rape' remark on Prajwal Revanna

The Karnataka High Court declined to urgently hear a public interest litigation on Thursday, which sought action against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for allegedly making objectionable remarks during a public speech. The speech in question claimed that Prajwal Revanna had committed 'mass rape'.

Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice KV Aravind, who presided over the division bench, refused to issue notice on the petition filed by the All India Dalit Action Committee. The bench stated, "No urgency, no notice to the respondents to be issued. List the matter for further hearing on October 21."

The allegedly controversial speeches were made on May 2 at election rallies held in Shivamogga and Raichur, which went to polls on May 7. The petitioner's counsel argued that the hate speech has affected households in Hassan, causing doubt and suspicion among them.

The PIL sought legal action against Gandhi for his alleged hate speech, which was claimed to have outraged the modesty of women and shown disrespect to the Constitution, and demanded an unconditional apology from him to the women. Furthermore, it sought to impose a token cost on him for the alleged gross misuse of public post, breach of public trust, and violations of constitutional provisions, provisions under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, of the Model Code of Conduct in the Parliamentary Election 2024, and of provisions of the Representations of the Peoples Act 1951.

Traffic restrictions on Uttarahalli Road from today

Traffic restrictions have been announced on Uttarahalli Road for a month starting from Friday, owing to the ongoing installation of 1,900 mm-diameter water pipelines by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) to service 110 villages. The police officials urge the public to cooperate during the work period to ensure minimal disruption and a smoother traffic flow.

To ensure safe and smooth traffic flow, vehicle movement will be temporarily restricted from BGS Junction towards Madhu Petrol Station Junction (East to West) during this period. Commuters are advised to follow alternative routes to avoid inconvenience; the recommended detour is to turn right at BGS Junction and proceed via Mookambika Circle and Vrushabhavathi Mori Bridge before joining Mysore Road.

Vehicles travelling from Mysore Road towards Uttarahalli can turn right at Mylasandra Village, pass through the village's back gate, and proceed towards BGS Junction. Similarly, vehicles coming from the city can turn left at Mylasandra Junction and head towards BGS Junction.

–BMB

PAGE 12

How to fly like a star: Manushi offers a glimpse into her travel experience

Walk on the wild side at bear rescue centre

Wildlife SOS educates visitors about sloth bears and elephants through ethical tourism, featuring veterinary sessions and insights into rehabilitation and sustainable care

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Wildlife SOS is promoting conservation education through ethical tourism, offering visitors immersive learning experiences at its rescue centres. At the Bannerghatta Bear Rescue Centre (BBRC), people can explore the challenges faced by sloth bears and elephants.

At these centres, visitors are guided through engaging sessions with veterinary staff and education officers, who share the heartbreaking stories of cruelty endured by these animals and the dedicated efforts to rehabilitate them. They also gain insights into the specialised medical care required to treat rescued animals with unique health conditions, enriching their knowledge of animal welfare and conservation.

Kartick Satyanarayan, Co-founder and CEO of Wildlife SOS, said, "Education derived from hands-on experiences is invaluable. Unfortunately, the over-commercialisation of tourism can lead to significant negative impacts on local flora and fauna, jeopardising the survival of native species. A visit to the Wildlife SOS rescue centres serves as meaningful and effective learning hubs that foster awareness and understanding of wildlife conservation."

The initiative is particularly significant as it aligns with World Tourism Day, celebrated annually on September 27. This year's theme,

This initiative aligns with World Tourism Day on September 27, themed 'Tourism and Peace'

'Tourism and Peace', focuses on promoting peaceful coexistence between humans and wildlife. By offering experiential tours, Wildlife SOS is helping to spread awareness about the need to protect wild animals while also offering tourists an enriching and responsible travel experience.

Geeta Seshamani, Co-founder and Secretary of Wildlife SOS, said, "The ethos of ethical tourism is grounded in sustainability, fostering not only the well-being of our resident animals but also supporting various people that collaborate with us. The experience at the centres offers an intimate glimpse into animal behaviour and cultivates respect for wildlife while instilling a sense of responsibility for conservation among visitors."

During the tours, visitors learn about the 'Dancing Bear Project', which sheds light on the cruel practice of using sloth bears for entertainment. For generations, the Kalandar community used these animals as "dancing bears" for a living. Wildlife SOS has played a major role in ending this practice and rehabilitating both the bears and the Kalandars, helping the community with alternative livelihoods.

Visitors are also given an overview of the current residents at the BBRC, where around 60 sloth bears live, rescued from abusive conditions. The centre highlights the progress made in rehabilitating these animals, explaining how enrichment activities are used to help them overcome the trauma of captivity. The veterinarians also discuss the importance of veterinary care for the rescued bears, many of which display stereotypic behaviours due to the harsh conditions they once endured.

> **"The experience at the centres offers an intimate glimpse into animal behaviour and cultivates respect for wildlife**
>
> – Geeta S, Wildlife SOS

The tour includes a visit to the bear kitchen, where visitors can see the preparation of nutritious porridge meals tailored to each bear's needs. The kitchen uses eco-friendly practices, cooking with briquette stocks made from vegetable waste, haystack, and sawdust, instead of gas or wood. Visitors are also shown the centre's in-house mealworm unit, which provides a valuable source of protein for the bears.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Toilet crisis

Kodihalli

A nursery school near Golf Avenue Road in Kodihalli, adjacent to the Mir Carpet shop, lacks proper toilets, forcing children to use nearby garbage piles.

Bus stop troubles

Channasandra

The bus stop in Channasandra has damaged seating, causing discomfort for daily commuters.

Saturdays are for nurturing nature at Varanasi Lake

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A group of environmentally conscious individuals has come together to water approximately 500 saplings planted along the bund of Varanasi Lake. They are retrieving water from the lake to nourish the saplings, ensuring they remain healthy and vibrant. The group expressed their commitment to this task, noting that there was no one else available to maintain the saplings. "I live with my daughter on Varanasi Main Road. I visit the lake for a walk in the morning and evening. Recently, we planted saplings. We water these saplings every Saturday morning. The problem with the people in charge of the lake is that they fail to open the gate on time. There are no benches for senior citizens on the lake bund," said Ramamurthy BN, a resident.

Echoing this sentiment, Keshava, a resident, shared that he collaborates with others to water the saplings every Saturday morning."We work for one to one-and-half hour to water the saplings. I am very happy to be part of this team comprising around 10 people from nearby areas. Our aim is to ensure the saplings grow without any hassle," said Keshava.

The group mentioned that they have joined hands with others under the guidance of M Sreeram, a well-known environmentalist who planted thousands of saplings in and around KR Puram, to look after the saplings. "I bring water from home to water the saplings but it is not sufficient. I take the help of my friends and well-wishers to water the saplings. There are occasions when walkers volunteer. I am very happy to visit the lake during the weekends to water the saplings," said Sreeram. He mentioned that he and his friends spend their Sundays watering saplings in and around Dr BR Ambedkar Stadium near Indian Telephone Industries. "There are about 400 saplings," he noted.

Collecting water from Varanasi Lake to water saplings

> **Volunteers bring water from home to foster saplings during weekend**

Muniraju, a resident, said that he too joins Sreeram whenever he is free. "I consider watering the saplings as my contribution to nature. I am very happy to do this. I have been associated with Sreeram for many years," said Muniraju. Muralidhar VK, a private employee, expressed his enthusiasm for collaborating with Sreeram. "I do not know whether the BBMP (Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike) authorities have taken measures for watering the saplings. I spend more than an hour on Saturdays watering saplings along with my friends," he said.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P. C.

Whereas a complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Devaraju R** Prop. Of M/s Super Book Services At: 1. Swathi Complex 80 Feet Road, Opp. Vijaya Nagar, College Chandra Layout Bangaluru-560072, Karnatka have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **CC. No. 1425/2019 U/S 138 NI Act.,** has been registered at **P.S. Hauz Quazi Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said, **Devaraju R** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said, **Devaraju R** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused, **Devaraju R of under CC. No. 1425/2019 U/S 138 NI Act., registered at PS. Hauz Quazi, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **19.11.2024.**

By Order
Ms. Divya Gupta, JMFC-05, NI Act,
Room No.02, Ground Floor, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

DP/12868/CD/2024

Transport dept uses GPS for tracking

Advanced technology is being employed to monitor private vehicle operations across 18 districts, aiming to prevent illegal activities

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The Transport Department has opted for advanced technology to crack down on the unauthorised operation of private buses. Across 18 districts identified for such activity, the department has introduced a GPS-based monitoring system. This technology will oversee the routes and schedules of these buses, promptly flagging any deviations from approved routes for enforcement action. A dedicated command centre has been established to oversee and regulate the movements of private buses, ensuring adherence to regulations. An official said, "The primary objective is to prevent illegal operations, enforcing compliance with designated routes and schedules. Additionally, the department has issued strict guidelines mandating private bus operators to obtain permits and adhere to regulations; non-compliance will result in penalties. This initiative aims to enhance passenger safety and minimise revenue losses incurred by the state transport department."

CCTV will monitor vehicles and capture registration numbers

CCTV to detect tax evaders

Till now, we had CCTVs for recording traffic violations but now the transport department is installing CCTVs to detect tax evaders. The Transport Department has decided to install CCTV cameras at 20 locations in Bengaluru Rural District to detect tax evaders and vehicles violating motor vehicle rules. Previously, transport officials manually checked vehicles on the road, but now, CCTV cameras will be used for monitoring. These cameras will capture vehicle registration numbers to verify tax payments and rule compliance. Notices will be issued to vehicle owners if any violations are detected, and fines or penalties will be imposed. The department has already installed these cameras in 20 locations and plans to expand the project to other areas in the future.

Delay in delivery of licences

Driving licences that were meant to be delivered by post are instead gathering dust in the cupboards of many Transport Department offices. Across the state, millions of these cards, about 3,000 per office, remain undelivered to the public, causing people to face fines from the police. However, a transport department official said, "To combat corruption and improve service delivery, the Transport Department introduced a system in 2001. However, some staff have turned it into another means of exploitation. For new vehicle registrations, a 30 fee is charged for a smart card, which should be sent via post. Cards that can't be mailed due to technical issues are handed over at the office. There are now directives to speed up the dispatch of the backlog of cards."

After changing the hypothecation, there is a 15-day window for card dispatch. However, many cards remain undelivered months later. Even when applicants receive a notification saying their card has been sent, it often never arrives. A 50 fee is charged at the time of application for postal delivery, but the process has shifted online, meaning all procedures should lead to card delivery via mail. Although mobile notifications claim that the card has been dispatched, the tracking link provided often shows no information. Visiting the office only leads to being told the card was sent, and it might arrive "tomorrow." In reality, many cards are never mailed. Printing is delayed by months, and once ready, instead of being sent out, staff store them in cupboards. Initially, excuses are made that the card hasn't arrived, and the delays are continually pushed to "this week" or "next week."

CCTV captures temple theft

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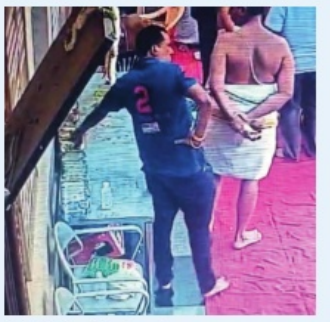
A video allegedly showing the theft of donations at the Gaali Anjaneya Swamy Temple is circulating on social media. While the head priest claims it is an old clip, the footage of two individuals stealing bundles of cash is distressing for the temple's devotees.

Thousands visit the Gaali Anjaneya Swamy Temple, trusting its management to use their offerings for the temple's development. The video reveals one of the supervisors counting donations handing a bundle of cash to a seated individual, who then pockets it despite being responsible for overseeing the counting process.

"My family members visit Gaali Anjaneya Swamy Temple regularly and make offerings out of devotion and gratitude for the favours received from Anjaneya Swamy. I never expected that people working at the temple would steal offerings made by the devotees. The video is quite shocking," said a devotee on the condition of anonymity.

Expressing concern over the video making rounds on social media, Sudheendra Venkatesh, a well-known public relations officer of Sandalwood, said that swindling offerings made by the devotees is a crime. "I am shocked to know people are swindling offerings made to Gaali Anjaneya Swamy. Those people have to be punished without mercy for indulging in such activities," he said.



CCTV footage shows money theft at temple

A devotee said that swindling offerings is a betrayal of the trust of the devotees. "I never expected committee members, who are supposed to work for the development of the temple, to steal money," the devotee said.

Meanwhile, Gaali Anjaneya Swamy Temple head priest Ramachandra said the incident of swindling offerings made by the devotees took place more than a year ago. "The temple administration has suspended two members of the executive committee for swindling the temple's money. We have asked two cooks who were found guilty not to come to the temple. As of now, we have taken some measures to prevent the swindling of offerings made by the devotees. We have increased the number of CCTV cameras and are engaging students and volunteers during the counting of offerings. I want to tell the devotees not to have any doubts while making offerings to Anjaneya Swamy. There is no scope for swindling or stealing offerings made by the devotees," said Ramachandra.

BM Food & Night Life

Advertorial Promotional Feature

Five iconic biryani delights

1 Hyderabadi dum biryani
The origin of this dish can be traced to the royal kitchens of the Nizams. This variety has two versions, kacchi and pakki. In kacchi biryani, the ingredients, spices and rice are cooked together in a sealed haandi over a slow flame. In a pakki biryani, the ingredients are marinated for a short time and are almost cooked while the rice is semi-cooked. They are then arranged in layers and steamed.

2 Kolkata biryani
Biryani was introduced to Kolkata by Nawab Wajid Ali Shah, the last Nawab of Awadh who lived in exile in the region. Legend has it that he didn't have enough money for meat, so he substituted it with potatoes. That is something found only in Kolkata biryani.

3 Malabar biryani
A trip to Kerala is incomplete without Malabar biryani. The biryani is generally spicy and has generous amounts of cashews and raisins in it. The rice is cooked separately from the gravy. The two are mixed before serving.

4 Dindigul biryani
This biryani found in Chennai makes use of jeera samba rice instead of the regular Basmati. A lot of pepper is used to give the biryani its unique spicy taste and aroma.

5 Lucknowi biryani
The biryani is cooked in the traditional Persian method. The ingredients are partially cooked and then layered in a sealed vessel.

– Femina

Invasive plants worsening human, wildlife conflicts

Developing Lantana craft works prove to be an effective strategy in eradicating this invasion in forests, while also benefitting local artisans

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Grass plays a crucial role in biodiversity, serving as essential sustenance for numerous animal species. However, the invasion of Lantana in forest areas of the state is disrupting this balance. Lantana's aggressive spread is choking out native grasses and plants that are vital for wildlife food sources.

The issue extends beyond the state's forests. In the Western Ghats and across all states within the region, invasive plant species are obstructing the growth of native vegetation. This invasion has led to food shortages in forests, pushing wildlife towards human-populated areas and increasing human-wildlife conflicts. Approximately 40-50% of forested areas are now overrun by invasive species like Lantana, causing significant challenges for the forest department and the government.

Life size elephants crafted by indigenous artists displayed at Vidhana Soudha at pre launch of the Lantana Elephants exhibition; (Inset) Lakshmiammal, a tribal woman from Javadhu Hills makes furniture from lantana wood (file photos)

A forest department official said, "For example, in Bandipur tiger reserve, Lantana has overtaken 40-50% of the 67,224-hectare area, while Nagarhole Tiger Reserve has seen 30-40% of its 64,139-hectare area affected. Bannerghatta National Park faces similar issues, with 20-30% of its 26,051-hectare area taken over by invasive species. The spread of Lantana, along with other species like Senna spectabilis and Parthenium, is causing severe disruptions."

Future food shortages

Officials said that the grass and shrubs, essential food sources for elephants and other wildlife, are being impacted. While elephant populations are increasing, the shortage of food in the forests has led them to encroach on human settlements, causing conflicts. In the past three years, 51 elephants have died due to electrocution or shooting incidents.

Efforts to combat invasive species

The forest department is actively working to restore grasslands and shrubs in key areas like Nagarhole, Bandipur, and Bannerghatta. An estimated Rs 11.9 crore is needed for maintenance and development of grasslands in these reserves, with Rs 5 crore allocated in 2023-24 to develop grasslands across the state's protected forests. Measures are being taken to eradicate invasive plants and replant native species, ensuring a sufficient food supply. Officials are aware of the long-term impacts of the Lantana invasion and are working on eradication strategies. During a recent international conference in Bengaluru, Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre expressed concerns about Lantana spreading in forest areas, hindering grass growth and wildlife movement. Forest ministers from Tamil Nadu and Kerala reported similar issues in their states. Proper technology and tools are necessary to combat this problem and prevent future disruptions to the food chain.

Unexpected benefits of Lantana

On the other hand, Lantana has surprisingly turned into a source of income and employment for local indigenous communities. While it poses a significant threat to wildlife and forest ecosystems, it is now providing a livelihood for more than 80 individuals who are involved in crafting furniture and decorative items from this plant. In areas like Male Mahadeshwara hills and Biligirirangana hills, Lantana has been a major obstacle for wildlife movement and forest growth. However, indigenous communities have turned this challenge into an opportunity by creating and selling handcrafted items made from Lantana. They have transformed this invasive species into a profitable venture, producing furniture and wildlife replicas that are exported to countries like the United States of America and England.

Special craft work

Artisans are crafting a variety of items, including elephant and dolphin sculptures, chairs, tables, sofas, lamps, and other decorative pieces from Lantana. This not only provides employment but also generates significant income for these communities. Since the inception of this craft work in 2000, the Lantana Craft Centre has reported earnings of over three crore Rupees. Currently, 10 people are employed in this craft, with training programmes extending to other states including Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Andhra Pradesh. In the Male Mahadeshwara Hills Lantana Centre, more than 75 elephant sculptures have been created and exported to various countries. Interestingly, the production has seen a rise in female participation, which marks a significant change in the workforce dynamics. The efforts to produce art from Lantana have led to a reduction in its spread in the forests. According to officials, sales from crafted items such as lamps and dolphin sculptures at Bengaluru's international airport have generated over Rs 61 lakh. Dr R Siddappa Shetty, who has taken up the initiative said, "This enterprise not only creates jobs but also aids in the eradication of Lantana from the forests, thus benefiting both the environment and the local communities."

Care for some sound advice?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

voice so perfectly cloned that even our expert team struggled to tell the difference between the fake and the real voice. If we couldn't easily distinguish between them, how can the common person be expected to?"

The danger

Responding to an AI voice scam can have devastating consequences. Victims often experience significant financial loss, identity theft, and a breach of personal information such as passwords or bank details. But the impact doesn't end there.

The emotional damage is just as severe. Once trust is broken, especially when it involves impersonating a loved one it can be hard to rebuild faith in legitimate institutions like banks or law enforcement. Criminals are not just after your money; they are eroding trust in the system.

Dr Harsha warns that the technology behind AI voice cloning is so advanced, even trained professionals can find it difficult to detect it.

Spotting an AI Voice Scam

Recently in Silicon City, a woman from Mangammanapalya fell victim to the frightening scam. The scammers posed as officers from the Delhi Crime Branch, claiming that her daughter had been arrested along with three friends. They assured her that her daughter was a good person and that they would release her if she paid a fine. The woman's daughter is a student at a private college. The call came in the morning, accompanied by threats to pay immediately. However, after hanging up, the victim quickly contacted the college to verify the situation and discovered that her daughter was safe, realising it was a scam.

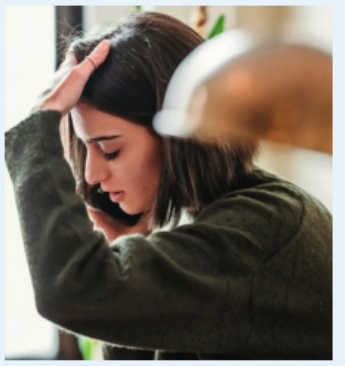
When dealing with phone calls that seem suspicious, it's important to be alert to certain signs. Pay attention to any robotic or unnatural pauses in the conversation, as these may indicate the use of AI or automated systems. Be wary of unexpected requests, especially if the caller asks for personal information or demands money in an urgent or unusual manner. Always verify the caller's identity by reaching out to them through a trusted contact number before taking any action. It's crucial to stay calm in these situations, as scammers often rely on panic to cloud judgement. Finally, be mindful of inconsistencies in the caller's story, if it seems overly dramatic or has gaps, it's worth questioning.

Dr Harsha urges the importance of raising awareness about the risks of voice cloning and ways to protect against it through public service announcements, workshops, and online resources. He advocates for training employees and the general public, particularly those in sensitive situations, to recognise and respond to voice cloning scam attempts. Additionally, he encourages individuals to always verify the identity of callers before sharing any sensitive information by either calling back on a trusted number or using secondary verification methods.

Two-step verification

One crucial way to protect yourself from falling prey to scams is by enabling two-step verification (also called multi-factor authentication). While not foolproof, this extra layer of security significantly reduces the chances of your accounts being compromised.

With two-step verification, a simple password is no longer enough. The user is also required to provide a second form of authentication, like a one-time code sent via SMS or an app. This makes it harder for scammers to access your accounts, even if they have managed to steal your password.



Dr Harsha explains that cybercriminals have found ways to bypass two-step verification, but despite not being foolproof, it still offers around 95% more security than relying solely on passwords. Shockingly, many people don't enable this feature, even though it's available on platforms like Gmail, social media, and banking services. He highlights that almost 60% of applications lack two-step verification. Government websites, for instance, often use basic security measures like simple CAPTCHA questions (e.g., "5+4 = 9") and weak passwords (4 to 8 characters), which are easily compromised.

Dr Harsha warns that cybercriminals use brute force attacks, a method involving trial and error to crack passwords, login credentials, and encryption keys. These attackers rely on predefined password lists, which contain 4 millions of predefined passwords like "xyz123," and use tools to test for login matches. Once a match is found, they gain unauthorised access to accounts, including Gmail and social media. Harsha urges the use of at least 12-character passwords, as it offers better protection against petty criminals, though not always against more sophisticated threats.

The fight against AI voice scams requires more than just individual vigilance. It demands collective action and widespread awareness.

5 mobiles, SIM cards seized from Central Prison

Jail's 'mobile service' gang in security radar

Dozens of mobile phones seized from Central prison (file pic)

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Two fresh FIRs registered after five mobile phones and SIM cards were discovered at Parappana Agrahara Central Prison on Sunday and Tuesday, despite increased surveillance.

Prison officials now suspect that certain inmates and staff may be running an illicit "mobile service" inside the facility charging exorbitant amounts from gangs. During an inspection led by jailor Sharanaiah Hiremath, an under-trial prisoner named Madhu was found with a mobile phone and acting suspiciously. Further searches uncovered another phone with an active SIM card hidden beneath a wash basin in the restroom.

In a separate raid led by Assistant Superintendent Karna B Kshathri, three more mobile phones with active SIM cards were discovered on the window sill of the washroom in Barrack No. 8, where under-trials are housed.

The five confiscated phones have been sent for forensic analysis by the Parappana Agrahara Police.

Following a previous high-profile incident involving actor Darshan, a security audit was conducted, which resulted in the installation of additional mobile jammers, surveillance cameras, and stricter security protocols. However, since these measures were implemented, over two dozen mobile phones have still been seized from the facility.

HC halts probe against convict

The High Court, presided over by Justice M Nagaprasanna, has temporarily halted further investigations against Shrinivas, a convict who was recently photographed inside the prison alongside actor Darshan Thoogudeepa. In the viral images, Shrinivas can be seen chewing tobacco while Darshan is smoking and drinking coffee.

Senior Advocate Sandesh J Chouta, representing the petitioner, argued that the case was registered solely due to the widespread circulation of Darshan's photographs on social media, and that no actual offence had been committed. The prosecution, however, opposed the plea, stating the need to investigate the matter further.

Upon reviewing the records, the court remarked, "You have created a problem in all that, you have shifted everybody just because everything has happened and become viral."

The court's order highlighted that Rule 25 (4) of the Karnataka Prison Rules lists various prohibited items within the prison, including pan-parag, alcohol, arms, acid, drugs, and other substances. The petitioner was allegedly chewing tobacco. However, Rule 218, which prohibits smoking in prison, contradicts the prison offenses outlined in the manual, as smoking is permitted in designated areas. The court noted that the petitioner, already a convict in another crime, is being charged for the actions of others.

After security audit recently, more mobile jammers and surveillance cameras set up

Fan murder: Bail to 1 accused

The High Court has granted bail to Keshavamurthy, one of the accused in the Renukaswamy murder case. Justice S Vishwajith Shetty, presiding over a single judge bench, granted bail to the petitioner on the condition that he execute a personal bond of Rs 1 lakh with two sureties of the same amount. Keshavamurthy is alleged to have tried to destroy evidence after the murder.

Auto theft gang busted; vehicles seized

The Annapurneshwari Nagar Police have arrested two accused involved in a series of auto thefts across the city. The accused, Ammad Khan and Fairoz Pasha, residents of Sottenahalli, were caught after a complaint was filed by Harsha Kumaraswamy, a resident of Nagarbhavi, whose autorickshaw was stolen on August 23.

The accused, who had been targeting vehicles parked in front of houses, were involved in multiple thefts across Annapurneswarinagar, Chandra Layout, and Gnanabharati police station limits. Upon interrogation, the duo confessed to stealing two two-wheelers and three autorickshaws, with a combined worth of 3.25 lakh.

The seized vehicles have been handed over to their rightful owners. **BMB**

Plan to plant IED at I-Day: Accused nabbed

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has apprehended a 26-year-old man from Assam, identified as Girish Barua, also known as Gautam Baruah, in connection with a case involving the planting of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) by the banned terrorist organization ULFA (I) across various locations in Assam.

Barua was arrested in Jigani, where he had been residing in a rented accommodation while working as a security guard for a private firm. The case, initiated by the NIA in Guwahati in September, relates to the placement of explosive devices as part of an armed protest against India's Independence Day celebrations.

Barua was brought before the Special NIA Court in Bengaluru on Wednesday, where the court approved a transit remand for his transfer to the NIA Special Court in Guwahati. **BMB**

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Student chases muggers, gets robbed again

A 21-year-old postgraduate student, Jyotirgagan MG, and his friend fell victim to muggers while out on Church Street. The duo had gathered to meet friends and were heading back around 3 am, when they were confronted by two individuals on a sports bike without a registration plate.

Before they could react, the assailants snatched a gold chain weighing 28 grams from Jyotirgagan and quickly fled the scene. Jyotirgagan and his friend gave chase, pursuing the muggers until they reached Kalasipalya. There, they were confronted again, assaulted, and robbed of a 21-gm chain of the friend Anishanth Mugesh, along with 150 in cash from his wallet, before the culprits escaped once more.

Jyotirgagan reported the incident later that day to the Cubbon Park police. —BMB

Priest's dance in deity costume kicks up row

A complaint has been filed at the Yeshwanthpur police station against a priest named Venkatesh from the Mathikere Yellamma Devi temple for allegedly performing a dance that is being considered vulgar while dressed as Panjurli, the deity of Tulunadu.

The video of the incident, which has been circulating on social media, shows the priest dancing in front of a Ganesha idol, and it has caused significant outrage among the people of the Karavali region.

The Jai Tulunadu organisation has expressed strong disapproval, stating that the dance, performed in the garb of Panjurli, disrespects the divine traditions associated with the deity.

According to the complaint, Panjurli, a revered deity of Tulunadu, cannot be portrayed dancing in such a manner without following the sacred rules of divine performance.

The organisation claims that the incident has deeply hurt the religious sentiments of coastal communities and could lead to unrest or misunderstandings between groups. Authorities are investigating the case. —BMB

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I, Sharadamma Changaiah w/o Venkatesh Naidu Kannaiah R/o 544, 3rd main, 6th block, 2nd phase, Bsk 3rd stage, Bengaluru 560085 have changed my name to Sharada Changaiah Affidavit Dt.26/09/2024 notary, Harisha G, B'luru

I Sachin R Kamble S/O, Ramachandra Kamble R/o D 71/1, Neharu Nagar, Sirsi-581402 have changed my name to Kalinga R Kamble .

I, Akanksh Satish Boggaram s/o Satish B K R/o D-602, D block, 6th floor, Vishwa Priya Veritcal Garden, Mysore Road, Bengaluru 560039 have changed my name to Akanksh Sai B Sfor all purposes.

I, Sneha Kudarihalmath R/o No 16, Supreme Layout, Kogilu Main Road, Maruthi Nagar, Yelahanka Blr-64 changed my name from Sushma Kudarihalmath to Sneha Kudarihalmath for all future purposes.

I Seeba Cheruthottil John W/O, Kalarickaprambil Joseph Vinoy R/o E 31, New Housing Colony, I I S C Campus, Bengaluru - 560012 have changed my name to Seeba Vinoy.

I Keerthi Talari D/O, Pasula Vijay Kumar R/o Sbr Keerthi Prime,old Madras Road,katttamnallur have changed my name to Pasula Keerthi.

I, Basheer Syed Sajid Iqbal S/o Syed Abdul Basheer R/o #9 G-1 Rahat Ulla Apts Bension Town B'lore-560046 have changed my name to Syed Sajid Iqbal .

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All you need to know about...

Eco-friendly diet

Plant-based eating
A plant-based diet is not only beneficial for your health but also for the environment. Fruits, vegetables, legumes, nuts, and whole grains require fewer resources to produce compared to animal-based products. By reducing your consumption of meat and dairy, or opting for plant-based alternatives, you can significantly lower your carbon footprint.

Reduce waste
Minimising food waste is crucial for both environmental sustainability and personal health. Plan your meals, use leftovers creatively, and store food properly to extend its shelf life. Composting food scraps instead of sending them to landfills also helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By being mindful of portion sizes and avoiding overbuying, you can reduce waste and save money.

Cut processed foods and packaging
Processed foods often come with excessive packaging, contributing to environmental pollution. These foods are also typically less nutritious. Opt for whole, minimally-processed foods, and try to buy in bulk to reduce packaging waste. Bringing your own reusable bags, containers, and utensils when shopping can further decrease your environmental impact.

Choose whole grains
Whole grains such as brown rice, quinoa, and oats are not only healthier, but they also have a lower environmental impact compared to refined grains. Whole grains require less processing, which means less energy consumption and fewer emissions. They also provide more nutrients and fibre, contributing to a healthier diet.

Avoid bottled water
Choosing filtered water over bottled water can significantly reduce plastic waste and lower your carbon footprint. Reusable water bottles are a sustainable option that also encourages regular hydration, which is essential for maintaining a healthy diet.

—Dietician Dr Archana Batra, for Femina

From Karwar to Kashmir, keep moving

Vidya

Prateek

Shilpa Anil

Celebrating our holidays on World Tourism Day

Would you like to ride a hot air balloon in Cappadocia and glide over the majestic volcanic terrain? Would you enjoy releasing golden lanterns into the sky during Thailand's Yi Peng Festival? Or trekking far enough to get a glimpse of a snow leopard in Spiti Valley?

In an age when we can choose from various forms of tourism - such as Bleisure Travel (business and leisure), Geo Tourism, Space holidays, Shark Sightings, and Culinary vacations - it is just a matter of planning a break and heading towards adventures untold.

The sky is the limit when it comes to countries to visit and experiences to enjoy. The surge in tourism shows that people are prioritising meaningful holidays over chasing wealth and pursuing tedious jobs.

World Tourism Day is celebrated annually on September 27 to build awareness among people of the importance of tourism and its social, cultural, political, and economic values.

As we commemorate World Tourism Day, here's how some jet-setting Bengalureans travelled the world this year and the changes they hope to see happening in the Tourism sector in the near future.

Memories of Sweden and Karwar

Vidya Singh, who works in the HR department of a Media Agency in the city, has 29 stamps on her passport so far and hopes to get her 30th one in October when she travels to Thailand.

"Among all the countries that I have travelled to the one that always stays in my memory was my trip to Abisko which is situated in the northernmost part of Sweden," she says. "Watching the Northern Lights was wonderful but beyond that, I also loved hiking in the region and enjoying the stillness and beauty of snow-covered landscapes."

Vidya, a global traveller who enjoys group travels, is just as fascinated with domestic tourism. "This year I went to the seaside city of Karwar. Our Tier 2 cities are so beautiful. I loved the simplicity of these cities and the amazing customer service people provide."

Hire a food tour guide

If she were to choose one of the most interesting trends of modern tourism, Vidya mentions a food tour guide whom she hired in Vietnam. "We asked our food tour guide to take us on a vegetarian food tour across Vietnam. He took us to many restaurants and we enjoyed the cuisine immensely."

Let's get elder-friendly

Tourism in Asia, however, has a long way to go according to Vidya when it comes to offering disabled-friendly and elder-friendly options.

A trek across Kashmir

Shilpa Anil, who is a senior manager in a lifestyle company in Bengaluru, loves going on solo trips and says that her recent trip to Kashmir was one she will always remember.

"The reason why I love solo travel is because it gives me the freedom to choose and create my own itinerary," says Shilpa. "I can plan where I want to go instead of checking on other people's timings and their routines all the time. I love the sense of freedom I experience while on the road, away from the routine of office and home."

There are many challenges to solo travel as learning to stay safe and finding the right places to stay. In February this year, she went to Spiti Valley and loved the trip as well as a backpacking trip to Himachal Pradesh.

One of the important changes that Shilpa would like to see in the Tourism sector is the promotion of eco-tourism which focuses on experiencing nature and culture in a way that is environmentally responsible, sustainable way that benefits local communities.

"I love trekking in off-beat places where there are no vehicles and no pollution but tourists always manage to create pollution everywhere. They throw garbage and plastic at random and seeing piles of garbage in beautiful rivers, lakes and meadows is very painful," she adds.

How about a foodie holiday?

Prateek Kole who works as Senior Manager, Marketing in a gaming company loves going on culinary holidays to enjoy different kinds of cuisines.

"Looking back over this year, I would say, one of my most memorable culinary trips was to Hong Kong and Japan," says Prateek. "In Hong Kong, I enjoyed the colonial-era influences mixed with traditional Chinese flavours. In Japan, I realized there's so much more to Japanese cuisine than just sushi, noodles, and mochi."

Another unique food destination that Prateek visited recently was the Philippines. "I was pleasantly surprised by how much rice and grilled meat feature in their meals," he says, adding, "In the Philippines, we went island hopping off the coast of Coron, Palawan, and to our surprise, the ship's crew also served as chefs! On that tiny boat, they managed to prepare a seven-course meal for 16 people."

Changes in culinary tourism

According to Prateek, there's been a noticeable rise in the introduction of various foreign cuisines in India. "Today, restaurants are evolving from generic pan-Asian offerings to more specific regional cuisines, and we're seeing the addition of new cuisines such as Turkish, Korean, Burmese and Syrian. Traditional Indian recipes are often tweaked to have more universal appeal," he says.

Changes can make all the difference

There is always room for improvement in the tourism sector, according to Prateek.

"I hope to see a greater representation of local cuisines beyond just the legacy restaurants in cosmopolitan cities like Bengaluru. There's so much regional diversity in our country that could be showcased prominently."

— Asha Chowdary

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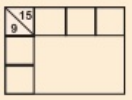
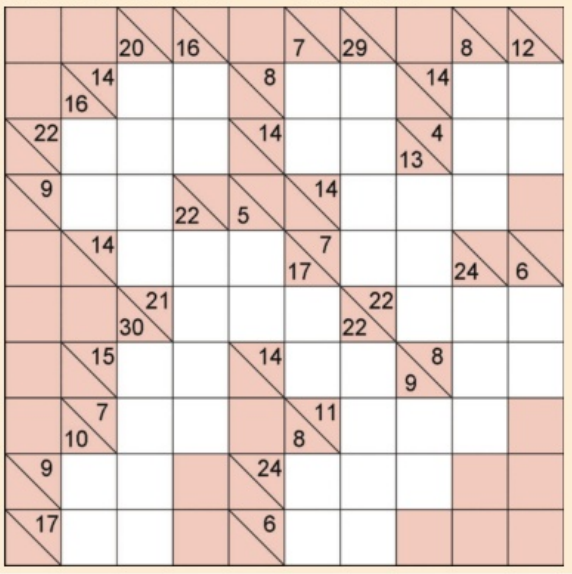
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas



for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



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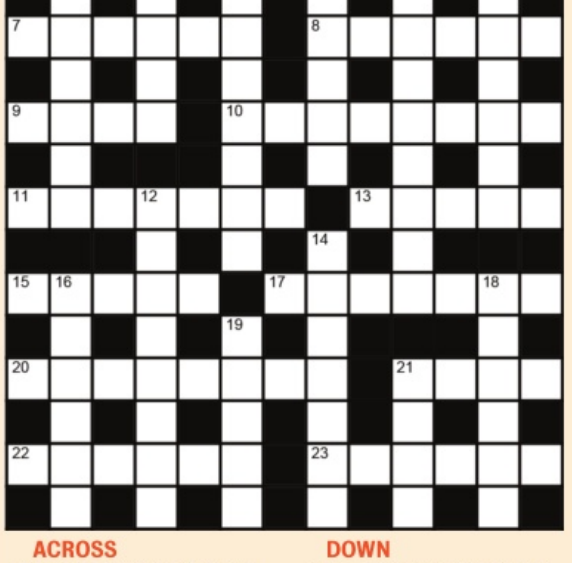


ACROSS

7 Dismiss temporarily? (3,3)
8 Solicitor (6)
9 Crust formed over wound in healing (4)
10 Burn the midnight oil (8)
11 Souped-up cars (3,4)
13 Taunt or bother (5)
15 Bryan ___ : singer of "Summer of 69"? (5)
17 Spreads outwards as if diverging from a point? (4,3)
20 Plenftiful (8)
21 Thespian's part (4)
22 Light wind (6)
23 Withdraw a promise (6)

DOWN

1 Cowboy of the pampas (6)
2 Burial place (4)
3 Is able to spare? (7)
4 Stevie Ray Vaughan's forte (5)
5 Fourteen days (3,5)
6 Finds out (6)
12 Memorandum or prompt (8)
14 Shape or design (7)
16 The elephants for the Mysore Dussehra were trained at this camp (6)
18 Dissimilar (6)
19 Spoken for (5)
21 Talk wildly (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Z EQUALS U

IZLE MK YJN KJBDNTMYQ OJZ LVY BDYNMJY MY NTD RSDK-DYLD JU KDIU-BVGD BDY.

Linemaro

I'd marry your cat just to get in the family

Mindchow

The one you love and the one who loves you are never, ever the same person.

Joke of the day

A: Why are you crying?
B: The elephant is dead.
A: Was he your pet?
B: No, but I'm the one who must dig his grave.

Loop

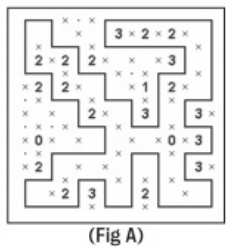
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

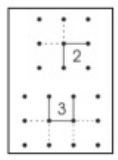
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

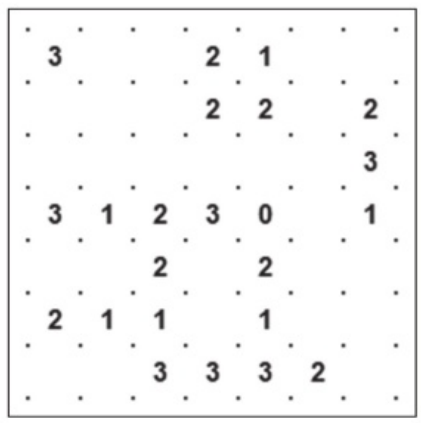
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



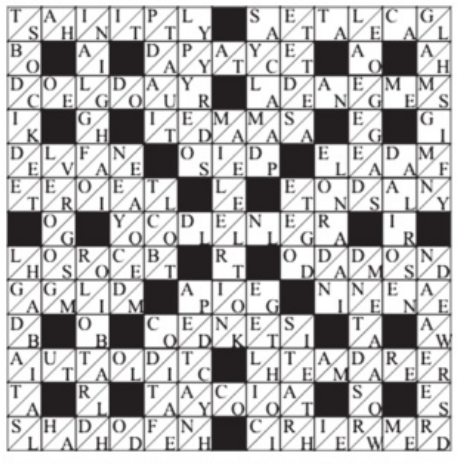
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



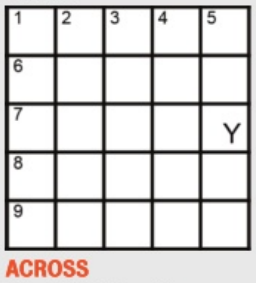
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

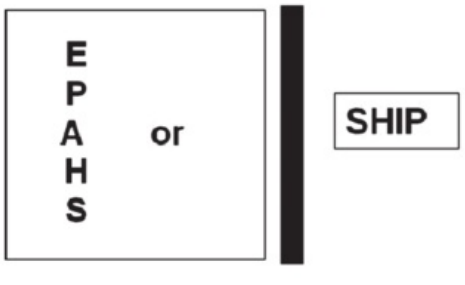
1 Aah CJ; 6 Arr Da;
7 Dolly; 8 Value;
9 Preps

DOWN

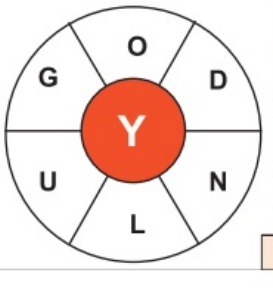
1 Or cup; 2 Havel;
3 Dr Ade; 4 AJ pal;
5 Lyra's

Mensapuzzle

Solve this rebus:



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 06 Outstanding

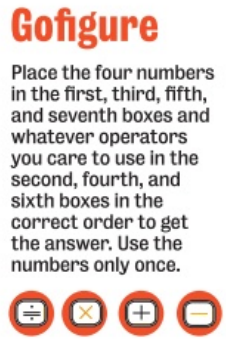
SudokuChallenge

		9				6		
	2		7		6		4	
	7	3	5		2	8	9	
	1			6			7	
			4		9			
	5			1			3	
	8	1	9		3	7	6	
	3		2		4		1	
		5				4		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

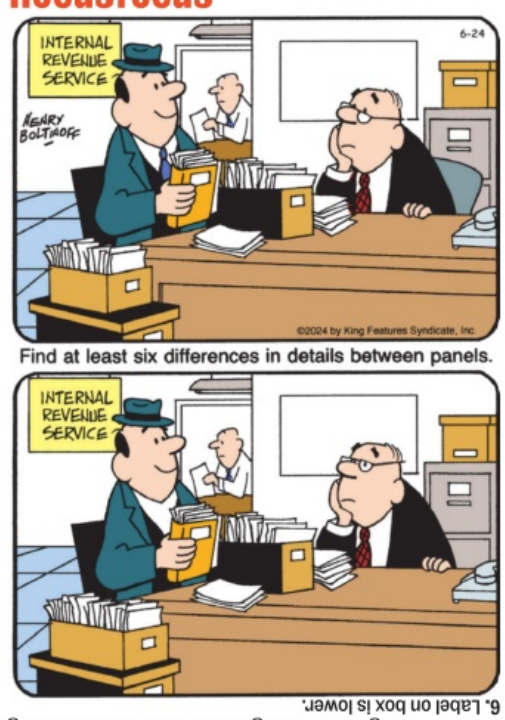


Easy = 9
2 7 8 8

Medium = 40
2 2 3 4

Hard = 6
3 3 6 3

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

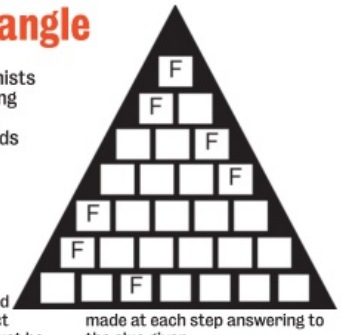
Differences: 1. Hand is moved. 2. Glasses are different. 3. Tie is missing. 4. Box is longer. 5. Back of chair is missing. 6. Label on box is lower.

Riddler

If Wizzy weighed one and three-quarter times as much as she does, she would be twice as heavy as if she lost 20lb. How much does Wizzy weigh?

Alpha triangle

1 Fathead!
2 Iron for the chemists
3 An imaginary being
4 Narcissist's love
5 Navigation hazards
6 Criminals
7 Enwraps



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

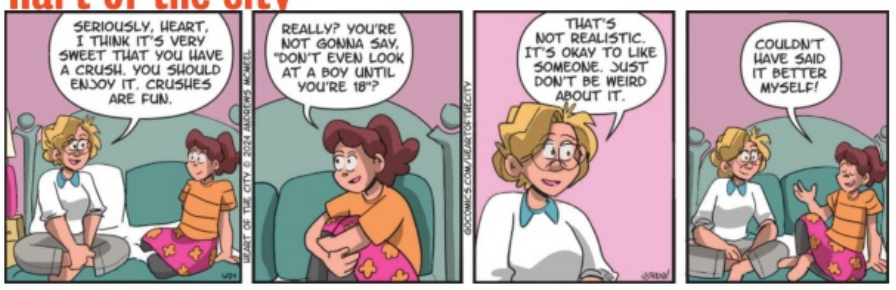
Popeye

WHO ARE YOU ?
I YAM POPEYE THE SAILOR!
ROYAL COMPUTER
popeye.com
HA! HA!! THAT'S A RELIEF !! THE ROYAL COMPUTER IS SAFE .... YOU DON'T EXIST!! I WIPED YOU OFF MY MEMORY TAPES!
BUT, POPEYE.. I SEES YA?!
ROYAL COMPUTER
BOB ONGENDORF

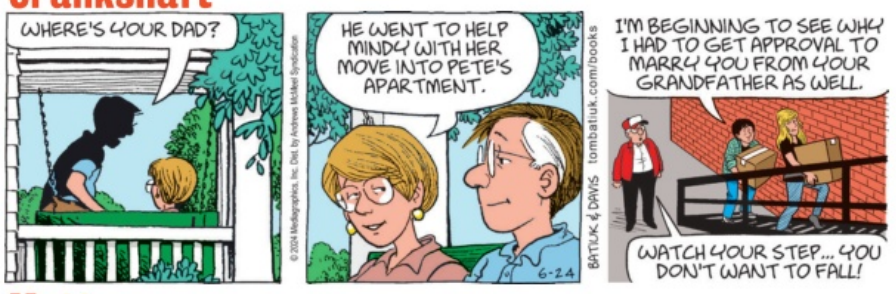
Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


SERIOUSLY, HEART, I THINK IT'S VERY SWEET THAT YOU HAVE A CRUSH. YOU SHOULD ENJOY IT. CRUSHES ARE FUN.
REALLY? YOU'RE NOT GONNA SAY, "DON'T EVEN LOOK AT A BOY UNTIL YOU'RE 18"?
THAT'S NOT REALISTIC. IT'S OKAY TO LIKE SOMEONE. JUST DON'T BE WEIRD ABOUT IT.
COULDN'T HAVE SAID IT BETTER MYSELF!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2024 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


WHERE'S YOUR DAD?
HE WENT TO HELP MINDY WITH HER MOVE INTO PETE'S APARTMENT.
I'M BEGINNING TO SEE WHY I HAD TO GET APPROVAL TO MARRY YOU FROM YOUR GRANDFATHER AS WELL.
WATCH YOUR STEP... YOU DON'T WANT TO FALL!
BATUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
© 2024 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
6-24

Mutts

MY DOOZY'S TEACHING ME A LOT OF NEW THINGS.
LIKE WHAT?
LIKE YESTERDAY I LEARNED TO EAT ICE CREAM.
AND I MUST SAY...
I WAS PRETTY GOOD AT IT.
mutts.com
6-24

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, your destiny may be with you. You can manage things easily; it may boost your confidence. You may plan to visit some spiritual place and donate some amount to religious activity or to some charity. You may expect a short business trip. Blessings from elders may give peace of mind. Lovebirds may get some help from family members in terms of marriage.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may feel dull; you may have some small health-related issues that may affect your daily routine. You may explore and analyse yourself to figure out your negativities. You may feel alone while sitting in a crowd, and your focus may be lost. In the late evening, with the help of elders' blessings, you may overcome this messy situation.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may get some business orders that may be profitable in the near future. You may implement some new ideas in your work. New partnerships may come into the ground. You may also be busy with your work; it may make you mentally tired and may affect your domestic life.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may perform well in your job, your colleagues may cooperate with you, and you may be able to complete your postponed projects on time. You may also lend money for investment purposes. Job seekers may get new jobs. There may be positive news for the natives who are affected by old health issues.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, situations are now ok; people around you may now respond to you. You are advised not to take life as a burden; you should try to sustain yourself in unavoidable situations. You may face some difficulties in easy gains. Blessings from elders may help you come out of this situation. Your confusion in choosing targets may end now.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may be a victim of mood swings. Your patience may be tested many times, and silly mistakes make you confused to conclude your work. Lovebirds may find themselves to be confused in terms of feelings. More expectations may affect your emotional attachment to your spouse. You are advised to take care of your parents. Students may lose their concentration.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, with the help of your subordinate staff, you may be able to complete postponed projects. Your network may be increased now, which may help you in your work or social life. You may plan to go on an outing with friends or siblings. Some disputes with neighbours may be resolved now. Students are advised to overcome laziness and carelessness.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may spend money on your family issues. It may affect your financial health. So you are advised to avoid spending money on worthless things. You must think twice before acting. It is advised to control your straightforwardness to maintain harmony in your domestic and professional life.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today is a good day for you. You may have a positive environment around you after hearing some good news from siblings. Job seekers may get good jobs. Spiritual energy may help you make the right decision. Your focus towards your goals will be clear now. Students may have good focus in their studies.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may feel dull and unhealthy. You may likely find yourself standing at a crossroads. It is advised to follow your intuition before making some important decision. It is advised to drive safely and avoid adventure tourism. You may criticise yourself; you may find it difficult to take some important decisions, which may be a reason for a lack of self-confidence in you. It may affect your social image.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is important in terms of gains. You may get results with less effort. Your losses may convert into profits now. You may plan to get into some academics. You may also donate some amount to a religious place or charity. You may also help a needy person. Some investment in intellectual assets may be possible. Students may do better in their academics.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, your performance may be very good in terms of profession; you may have full support of your boss or seniors, and you are likely to get new opportunities. You may also expect to get a new job. Job seekers may find a suitable job. Singles will find their love at their workplace.

KIDZONE

K Piyush Singh, Bengaluru

Nidhi Harsha, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
√625=25,
(5×25)^1/3=5,
√5×5=5,
√4+5=3

BULL'S EYE
duly, godly, only, ugly, UNGODLY, young

STRIKE OUT

S	A	N	I	T	Y	S	T	A	L	A	G			
O	I	A	P	A	C	E	A		A					
C	O	L	O	U	R	A	D	A	G	E	S			
T	L	T	A	C	I	T	O		E					
I	T	A	L	I	C	H	E	A	D	E	R			
B	B	C	E	N	T	S	A	S	A					
A	M	I	D	P	O	E	N	E	N	E				
H	O	R	E	B	R	D	A	M	O	N				
O	Y	O	D	E	L	E	R	R						
T	R	I	A	L	L	T	O	D	A	Y				
E	V	A	N	S	I	P	L	E	A	F				
K	G	T	E	A	M	S	G	I						
S	A	N	D	E	N	C	H	E	W	E	D			

FAST FIVE

C	H	A	J	A
R	A	D	A	R
O	L	D	L	Y
U	V	E	A	L
P	E	R	P	S

QUOTE UNCODE
Luck is not something you can mention in the presence of self-made men.

QUICK

G	T	A	B	T	L									
L	A	V	O	F	F	L	A	W	V	E	R			
S	C	A	B		O	V	E	R	W	O	R	K		
	H		R		S		E		N					
H	O	T	O	R	O	D	S		T	E	A	S	E	
	E		S		P	K								
A	D	A	M	S		F	A	N	S	O	U	T		
	U		I		T		T		N					
A	B	U	N	D	A	N	T		R	O	L	E		
A		D		K		E		A		I				
B	R	E	E	Z	E		R	E	V	O	K	E		
	E		R		N		N		E		E			

MENSA PUZZLE
shape-up-or-ship-out

RIDDLER
11 st 6 lb
(1 stone = 14 lbs)

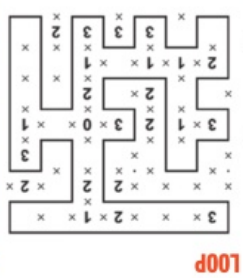
SUDOKU

5	4	9	1	3	8	6	2	7
1	2	8	7	9	6	3	4	5
6	7	3	5	4	2	8	9	1
8	1	2	3	6	5	9	7	4
3	6	7	4	2	9	1	5	8
9	5	4	8	1	7	2	3	6
4	8	1	9	5	3	7	6	2
7	3	6	2	8	4	5	1	9
2	9	5	6	7	1	4	8	3

ALPHA TRIANGLE
F, Fe, Elf, Self, Foes, Felons, Enfolds.

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 + 8 + 2 − 8 = 9
Medium
3 + 2 x 4 x 2 = 40
Hard
3 x 3 + 3 − 6 = 6

LOOP



KAKURO

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 # Channing, Jenna finalise divorce
Channing Tatum and Jenna Dewan have finalised their divorce, concluding a lengthy process that began with their separation six years ago

How to fly like a star

Manushi offers a glimpse into her travel experience

Miss World Manushi Chhillar recently delighted her followers by sharing cheerful snapshots from her flight, offering a glimpse into her travel experience. Alongside the photos, she provided an intriguing sneak peek into the book that she is reading -- 'The 5 Love Languages',

Taking to Instagram, Manushi, who has 6.6 million followers, shared a delightful series of photos from her flight. In the snapshots, she looks effortlessly stylish in a white sleeveless tee, wrapped in a matching shawl, and sporting reading glasses that highlight her dimpled smile. One photo offers a glimpse of the novel 'The 5 Love Languages', accompanied by a cozy cup of tea. Another snap features a tempting spread of fruits and a chocolate pastry.

In her caption, she writes, "A little love, some sunshine and an interesting read... catching flights has become second nature since my Miss World days, and I absolutely love giving myself some me time post wheels up... Also, before jumping to conclusions, this book is simply a fun read; humans and their ways interest me. But I guess love isn't only for a significant other; there are so many relationships that fuel our life. I would 100% recommend!"

Manushi will next be seen in action thriller 'Tehran'.

— IANS

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Real story

Director Ravi Srivatsa, known for films such as Deadly Soma, Madesha, and Dashamukha, returns to Sandalwood with a bang after a gap of seven years. After Tiger Galli that was released in 2017, he makes a comeback with Gangs of UK under the banner of Deadly Arts.

Srivatsa began his career as a script writer for veteran director KV Raju and graduated as a director. "I never forget the support and guidance of KV Raju Sir who stood like a rock behind me. Later writer-cum-director MS Ramesh joined hands with me. I wrote the script of Gangs of UK in 2018. The movie went on floors on April 18 and the cast of the movie includes 56 newcomers. The shooting of the movie was wrapped up a few days ago," he said.

The director said a real incident that took place at famous waterfalls in Bagalkot was the inspiration for the script.

MS Ramesh also expressed gratitude to KV Raju. "Director KV Raju helped me a lot to establish myself as a director in Sandalwood," he said.

KV Raju's son Amogh plays the lead in the movie that has nine songs. Sadhu Kokila has composed music for it.

On ghosts

The team of Maantrika is excited about the unveiling of the movie's teaser at SRV Theater recently. Vyana Varna Jammula, a software engineer, debuts as a director in Sandalwood with this film. Vyana Varna Jammula also plays the lead in the movie that revolves around a ghost hunter. Radhika Maali Patil and Mythili Nayak are paired opposite Jammula.

Jammula's wife Ayana has bankrolled the movie under the Krishna Sankula Branding Pictures banner. She also helped her husband with direction. "The movie tries to throw some light on the existence of ghosts and the practice of black magic. I agreed to bankroll it because of its script. We are planning to release the movie during Dasara," said Ayana, who works with a multi-national company.

Jammula said humans are living in fear. "Maantrika talks of the need of humans removing fear from their mind and come to reality. The movie also highlights how humans feel about existence of ghosts. I play a ghost hunter working for the Come To Reality (CTR) organisation. The ghost hunter's job is to provide guidance for people on the existence of ghosts," he said.

He said the movie was shot in Bengaluru and Mangaluru.

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RENAULT KIGER

limited edition price ₹6.74 lakh*

22.86 cm touchscreen with wireless replication
exclusive pearl white dual tone body colour
rear view camera

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Renault recommends Castrol

renault.co.in

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